(b) if so, what are the details in this regard, countrywise;

(c) what are the names of the Indian banks in foreign countries which have been showing continuous losses; and

(d) what steps are being taken to improve their performance during the next financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d) Accounts for the year 1987 have yet to be finalised by all the Indian Banks having foreign branches.

The banks prepare their Profit & Loss Accounts in the forms set out in the Third Schedule of the Banking Regulations Act, 1949. Only the profit/loss position of the bank, as a whole, during the year is required to be incorporated in the Profit and Loss Account and the Balance Sheet. Banks are not required to indicate separately domestic profits and foreign profits in their Balance Sheets.

Some of the foreign branches of Indian Banks have been, however, in the last few years, faced with certain problem accounts due to various factors. The performance of the foreign branches of Indian Banks is continually reviewed by the Reserve Bank of India. A number of steps have been taken to improve the working of these branches and for strengthening the operational and control systems within the banks. The Reserve Bank guidelines provide *inter alia* for fixing up of limits of exposure for individual borrowers/borrower groups, fixing up of limits of exposure limits, development of proper credit rating etc.

Expenditure incurred on Thakkar Commission

1. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the overall expenditure incurred on the Thakkar Commission; and

(b) what public interests have been served by spending so much of public money on the Commission and thereafter not making its report public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) A sum of Rs. 22,84,991 was, as over-all expenditure, incurred on the Thakkar Commission.

(b) It was decided by the Government, in the interest of security of the State and in the public interest, not to lay the report of the Thakkar Commission on the Table of the House *vide* Gazette Notification No. S.O. 260(E) daded 15th May, 1986. The security measures have however been notably strengthened.

Central assistance for river valley projects to Orissa

2. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) since when the River Valley Projects have been started in the State of Orissa and other parts of the country;

(b) the amount of Central assistance provided to the Orissa during the last three years, year-wise and the area covered under the scheme; and

(c) the area likely to be covered by the River Valley Projects in Orissa by the end of Seventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) River Valley Projects were started during the last century itself in many parts of the country, including Orissa.

(b) Irrigation schemes are planned, funded and implemented by State Governments and Central assistance is given in the form of block grants and loans.

(c) Upto the end of Sixth Plan, about 1,553 mha of irrigation potential was created in Orissa through major and medium irrigation projects and an additional potential of 0.18 m.ha. is targetted to be created during the Seventh Plan.